United Nations A/C.2/58/L.5

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
23 October 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (b)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: human resources development

Morocco:* draft resolution

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999 and 56/189 of 21 December 2001, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

Reaffirming internationally agreed development goals, targets and commitments contained in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

Recalling the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2002 of the Economic and Social Council, on the contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development,[3]

Stressing that health and education are at the core of human resources development, and the need to ensure that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that they will have equal access to all levels of education, as expressed at the World Education Forum, held at Dakar in 2000, and in the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development, and that human resources development is a fundamental aspect of poverty eradication and is vital to the process of sustainable development, contributing to sustained economic growth, social development and environmental protection,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 44.

03-57684 (E) 231003

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and the need for greater support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also the need for enabling national and international environments that will enhance human resources development of developing countries so that they can face the challenges of and benefit from globalization,

Recognizing the need for adequate financial resources to increase investment in human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, and information and communication technologies, and the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources in the developing countries,

Expressing deep concern at the devastating impact of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, malaria, tuberculosis and other major infectious diseases on human resources development in developing countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa,

Noting the impact of brain drain on human resources development and sustainable development in developing countries, and recognizing the need for further studies and analyses of its effects in the context of globalization,

Emphasizing the continuing need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in fostering the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, inter alia, of promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and eradicating poverty, as well as of participating more effectively in the world economic system and benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments by all countries, the United Nations system, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in all aspects of human development, such as health, nutrition, education, training and further capacity-building, with a view to achieving sustainable development and the well-being of all;

4. *Also urges* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development in designing and implementing development strategies at national, subregional, regional and international levels, while recognizing the role that the local knowledge system could play;

5. *Encourages* all countries to ensure local- and community-level engagement in the formulation and implementation of national and local policies to

[4] A/58/348.

promote human resources development and, in this regard, encourages them to continue developing individual capacity as well as empowering communities;

6. *Recognizes* the lack of adequate resources in developing countries to expand coverage and improve the quality of education, in particular to provide free universal primary education;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide greater technical assistance, financial support and allocation to human resources development in the developing countries;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations system to focus in its cooperation activities on building human and institutional capacity, with specific attention given to women, girls and vulnerable groups;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to harmonize further its collective human resources development efforts, in accordance with national policies and priorities;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue engaging in partnerships, with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, where appropriate, in accordance with United Nations resolutions, so as to contribute further to the building of human resources development capacity in developing countries;

11. *Recognizes* the role of information and communication technologies in promoting human resources development and, in this regard, welcomes the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva (in 2003) and Tunis (in 2005), as an important step towards addressing the challenges of bridging the digital divide as well as a truly information and knowledge-based approach towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries;

12. *Also recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas, with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and, in this regard, encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation, including triangular arrangements;

13. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to give greater priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, projects and operations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include a separate section therein on the effect of brain drain and, where applicable, of reverse brain drain on human resources development in developing countries;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".